Embedding evidence-based practice within the pre-registration midwifery curriculum

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Figure 1: Hierarchy of evidence (Evans, 2003, p79)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Effectiveness</th>
<th>Appropriateness</th>
<th>Feasibility</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Excellent** | • Systematic review  
• Multi-centre studies | • Systematic review  
• Multi-centre studies | • Systematic review  
• Multi-centre studies |
| **Good** | • RCT  
• Observational studies | • RCT  
• Observational studies  
• Interpretive studies | • RCT  
• Observational studies  
• Interpretive studies |
| **Fair** | • Uncontrolled trials with dramatic results  
• Before and after studies  
• Non-randomized controlled trials | • Descriptive studies  
• Focus groups | • Descriptive studies  
• Action research  
• Before and after studies  
• Focus groups |
| **Poor** | • Descriptive studies  
• Case studies  
• Expert opinion  
• Studies of poor methodological quality | • Expert opinion  
• Case studies  
• Studies of poor methodological quality | • Expert opinion  
• Case studies  
• Studies of poor methodological quality |

Figure 2: Evidence-based practice methodology (Moule, 2015)

1. Identifying a clinical problem and turning it into a specific question
2. Finding the best available evidence that relates to the specific question, usually by systematically searching the literature
3. Appraising the evidence for its validity, usefulness and methodological rigour
4. Identifying current best practice and, together with the client’s preferences, apply it to the clinical situation
5. Evaluating the effect on the client and the practitioner’s own performance

Spencer and Yuill (2017)
Figure 3

The University of Nottingham (2015) Pre-Registration Midwifery Curriculum Model

Spencer and Yuill (2017)